Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent comprises detecting that a send function has been initiated by an unauthorized agent.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the unauthorized agent is a virus.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising stopping transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising deleting the unauthorized electronic mail message, prior to transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

6. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message;

displaying at least information relating to an addressee of the unauthorized electronic mail message in a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction to stop transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message; and

stopping transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

7. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message;

displaying at least information relating to an addressee of the unauthorized electronic mail message in a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction to delete the unauthorized electronic mail message; and

deleting the unauthorized electronic mail message, prior to transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying the unauthorized electronic mail message ~~in an interface~~, and wherein the user interface is configured to <u>receive as</u> input an instruction to modify the unauthorized electronic mail message, cancel transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message, or authorize transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

    a computing device configured to:

        send an e-mail message;

        recognize that an unauthorized e-mail message is about to be sent from the computing device; and

        control a send operation of the unauthorized e-mail message from the computing device responsive to recognizing that the unauthorized e-mail message is about to be sent from the computing device<u>, said control including providing an alert, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized e-mail message</u>.

10. (Currently Amended) <u>An</u> article of manufacture including a computer readable storage medium having stored ~~thereon,~~<u>thereon</u> computer executable instructions ~~that, if~~ ~~executed~~<u>execution of which</u> by a computing device, ~~cause~~ <u>causes</u> the computing device to perform ~~a method~~<u>operations</u> comprising:

    recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from the computing device; and

controlling a send operation of the unauthorized electronic mail message responsive to recognizing that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from the computing device, said controlling a send operation including providing an alert, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

11. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail message alert display, comprising:

a text display ~~that provides~~configured to provide an alert indicating that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device and to display at least information relating to an addressee of the unauthorized electronic mail message; and

~~an~~a user interface ~~that enables selective~~configured to receive as input ~~of~~an instruction ~~that stops~~to stop transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

12. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

determining that an unauthorized electronic mail message composed by a virus is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

13. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

determining that an unauthorized electronic mail message about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message is being sent by an unauthorized agent; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

Claims 14 - 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message composed by a process configured to compose an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the process is a virus.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the process is an unauthorized agent.

26. (Currently Amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing that an electronic mail message about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message is an unauthorized electronic mail message; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

27. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture including a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon,thereon computer executable instructions that, if executedexecution of which by a computing device, cause causes the computing device to perform a methodoperations comprising:

recognizing that an electronic mail message about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message is an unauthorized electronic mail message; and

providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

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28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) An e-mail system, comprising:

means for recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent from a computing device configured to send an electronic mail message; and

means for providing at the computing device an alert indicating that the unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent, the alert being provided by a user interface configured to receive as input an instruction for further processing of the unauthorized electronic mail message.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the unauthorized electronic mail is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the unauthorized electronic mail is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the unauthorized electronic mail message is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the unauthorized ~~electronic mail~~e-mail message is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the computing device is configured to detect that a send operation has been initiated and recognize that the unauthorized ~~electronic mail~~e-mail message is about to be sent.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-readable storage medium~~article of manufacture of claim 10, wherein the ~~method~~operations further ~~comprises~~comprise recognizing the unauthorized electronic mail message is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-readable storage medium~~article of manufacture of claim 10, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

40. (Currently Amended) The display of claim 11, wherein the text display indicates the unauthorized electronic mail message is composed by a virus and has a valid recipient address.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the unauthorized electronic mail message has a valid recipient address.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer readable storage medium~~article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein said recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, wherein said means for recognizing that an unauthorized electronic mail message is about to be sent includes means for detecting that a send operation has been initiated.

46. (Cancelled).

47. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said computing device is configured to control the send operation by stopping transmission of the unauthorized e-mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

48. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said computing device is configured to control the send operation by deleting the unauthorized e-mail message, prior to transmission of the unauthorized e-mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

49. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for stopping transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

50. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for deleting the unauthorized electronic mail message, prior to transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

51. (Cancelled).

52. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer readable storage medium~~article of manufacture of claim 10, wherein said controlling a send operation of the unauthorized electronic mail message includes stopping transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

53. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer readable storage medium~~article of manufacture of claim 10, wherein said controlling a send operation of the unauthorized electronic mail message includes deleting the unauthorized electronic mail message, prior to transmission of the unauthorized electronic mail message, in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

54. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising modifying the addressee of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

55. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising modifying a text of the unauthorized electronic mail message in response to the instruction input via the user interface.

56. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying at least a list of plural addressees of the unauthorized electronic mail message in the user interface, wherein the user interface is configured to receive as input an instruction to modify an addressee in the list of plural addressees.